

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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CINCPACREP GUAM TTPI UNN

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CINCPACREP GUAM FOR STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, AQ, GQ, VQ, TQ

SUBJ: COMMITTEE OF 24; PLENARY CONSIDERATION OF AMERICAN
SAMOA, GUAM, VIRGIN ISLANDS, TTPI AND BRITISH
TERRITORIES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. COMMITTEE OF 24 PLENARY BEGAN CONSIDERATION OF SUB-
COMMITTEE REPORTS ON AMERICAN SAMOA, GUAM, VIRGIN ISLANDS
AND TTPI AS WELL AS SEVERAL BRITISH TERRITORIES AUG. 20.
US REP MADE SHORT STATEMENT, PARAPHRASING AMB. SCHAUFELLE'S
STATEMENT TO SECURITY COUNCIL AUG. 12 ON US COMMITMENT
TO PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. US REP ALSO REITERATED
LONG-STANDING US VIEW THAT INDEPENDENCE ONE FORM
OF SELF-DETERMINATION RATHER THAN ONLY LOGICAL OUTCOME OF IT
AS IMPLIED IN SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON US VIRGIN ISLANDS. US
REP REFRAINED FROM COMMENTING ON TTPI REPORT IN VIEW OUR UN-
WILLINGNESS RECOGNIZE COMMITTEE OF 24'S JURISDICTION OVER
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TRUST TERRITORY.

2. IN INTRODUCING REPORTS TO COMMITTEE, SUB-COMMITTEE II CHAIRMAN (ETHIOPIAN CHARGE TADESSE) EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US PARTICIPATION IN SUB-COMMITTEE'S HEARINGS AND HOPED THAT UN VISITING MISSION TO US TERRITORIES, WHICH HE UNDERSTOOD WAS UNDER "ACTIVE CONSIDERATION", WOULD BECOME A REALITY. WITH REGARD TO TTPI, TADESSE SAID SUB-COMMITTEE STRESSED ONCE AGAIN IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING UNITY OF TERRITORY UNTIL IT ACHIEVES SELF-GOVERNMENT AND WELCOMED CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AS IMPORTANT STEP IN THIS DIRECTION.

3. UK MADE FIRST ORAL PRESENTATION TO COMMITTEE ON ITS TERRITORIES SINCE IT WITHDREW FROM MEMBERSHIP IN 1971. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SALIM WELCOMED "NEW AND CONSTRUCTIVE" UK ATTITUDE TOWARDS COMMITTEE AND HAILED UK ACCEPTANCE OF VISITING MISSION TO GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS. SALIM THEN ANNOUNCED THAT COMMITTEE WOULD DEFER CONSIDERATION OF BRUNEI BECAUSE NO NEW INFORMATION DEVELOPED SINCE LAST YEAR AND RECOMMENDED INSTEAD THAT COMMITTEE ENTRUST TO HIM CONSULTATIONS WITH UK SO AS TO MAKE POSSIBLE REPORT TO UNGA ON THIS ISSUE. NO MEMBER OF COMMITTEE OBJECTED TO THIS PROCEDURE. END UNCLASSIFIED

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4. COMMENT: FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS, COMMITTEE OF 24 AND UNGA 4TH COMMITTEE HAVE FLATLY REJECTED UK REQUEST THAT BRUNEI BE REMOVED FROM LIST OF NON SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES AND INSTEAD THEY HAVE PASSED RESOLUTIONS CRITICIZING UK'S REFUSAL TO REPORT ON "TERRITORY". YESTERDAY'S COMMITTEE OF 24 DECISION VIRTUALLY ELIMINATES POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILE UN RESOLUTION ON BRUNEI THIS YEAR AND IS BIG STEP IN DIRECTION DESIRED BY UK. NEW BRITISH POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH COMMITTEE (INCLUDING INVITATION TO VISITING MISSION) APPARENTLY HAS PAID ITS FIRST DIVIDEND.
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